GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3656
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2001
INDO-ISRAEL TIES
Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Israel held parleys recently on co-operation between the two countries on counter-terrorism and other bilateral and international issues including the Middle-East;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM RAJU)

(a), (b) & (c) During the visit to Israel by Minister of Home Affairs Shri L.K. Advani and Minister of External Affairs Shri Jaswant Singh in 2000, it was agreed to establish a dialogue on cooperation on counter terrorism. The details of the same are being worked out by the concerned authorities of the two countries. During his visit to India in January 2001, Israel`s Minister for Regional Cooperation Mr. Shimon Peres had exchanged views with the Indian leadership on developments in the Middle East.India remains vitally interested in peace, stability and developments in West Asia which lies in India`s extended neighbourhood. Government maintain that the issues involved in Middle East Peace Process are of great complexity and sensitivity and, therefore, it is important for all parties to exercise restraint, avoid provocation, and desist from acts, which destabilize the prospects for peace.